

ABSTRACT

RESEARCH PAPER: A Global Perspective of Religious Influences on State-Sponsored Homophobia

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DATE: May 2018

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This study presents a quantitative overview of the influences of Abrahamic religions and non-Abrahamic religions on the presence of state sponsored homophobia. Over the period of 2006-2017, 208 states are evaluated utilizing logit regression with fixed effects. A total of 56 regressions are run, and broken down into eight models containing different combinations of three control groups. Each model contains 7 regressions, representing every combination of the percents of the population who are adherents to Islam, adherents to Abrahamic religions, and adherents to non-Abrahamic religions. Results suggest that Islam is a significant factor in a state having state sponsored homophobia laws. An analysis of all Abrahamic religions, collectively, has mixed results. The situations in which it shows significance indicate that Islam is the prevailing factor within the religion family. Non-Abrahamic religions support a higher likelihood of a state having state sponsored homophobia laws, albeit not as high of a likelihood as Islam.